



HI-Q

THE LAKEHEAD AMATEUR RADIO CLUB JOURNAL

LARC, Suite 184, 1100C Memorial Ave., Thunder Bay, Ontario, Canada, P7B 4A3

CW PRACTICE

VE3AVS , Dave Kimpton is having CW, Morse Code practice every Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 7:30p.m. on VE3TBR Repeater. The frequency is 146.820 with a negative offset. Please check in with Dave to let him know that you are listening and interested in learning CW. Dave will custom tailor the speed to your individual needs. Tnx HI-Q Ed.

Signals From Space

If your 2 Metre rig allows you to listen outside of the Ham band, punch in 143.625 MHz. This is the downlink frequency from the Russian space station MIR. The MIR Ham Radio frequency is 145.55 MHz, but with all that's gone on I suspect there isn't much time for extracurricular activities.

I have heard a Russian cosmonaut talking in Russian to ground control while cruising down the highway, using a rubber duck inside the vehicle. Even though he was talking Russian you could tell from the sound of his voice he was not having a good day.

Using and roof mounted 5/8 vertical I have heard them for about five minutes at a time as they pass overhead. There may not always be voice but you will hear data bursts in the background as well.

I have been scanning the frequency randomly and hearing them. With a computer program that tracks satellites you would improve your success rate.

If you have access to the Net check out http://www.liftoff.msfc.nasa.gov/temp/mir_loc.html,

VE3XT, Bill Unger.

CIBC RUN FOR CURE

The annual CIBC Run for the Cure took place on Sunday, October 5, 1997 and although it rained there was a very good turn out. Once again Lakehead Amateur Radio Club took care of the radio communications and as always they did a fine job. I would like to thank VE3DWP Dan, VA3TBA Chris, VA3XRM Rod, VE3SNW Ed, and VE3VUK Mark for all their help. JOB WELL DONE.....Thanks VA3JRS Jan.

(Submitted by VA3JRS, Jan Sokoloski)

It's a fine day if everything goes your way, if not, that's life !

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1997/1998 LARC**Founding President**

P. J. (Pat) O'Shea VE3FW

LARC maintains the Club call VE3FW
to honour the memory of our first
President Mr. Pat O'Shea.

Senate

Bill Roberts VE3ARN
Keith Fiske VE3JQ
Bert Lambert VE3BKY
Ray Greer VE3CH
Bill Klemacki VE3AJ

Executive Board

President:	Ian Mellis	VA3RIM	577-1628
Vice Pres:	Ed Baumann	VE3SNW	622-1216
Secretary:	Norm Bell	VE3XRC	577-9316
Treasurer:	John Watson	VE3GTX	683-3199
Directors:	Judy LeFevre	VA3EAP	
	Sam Shonias	VA3SAM	
	Bob Hanson	VE3RVA	767-6924
	Jan Sokoloski	VA3JRS	
Past Pres:	Terry Stewardson	VE3TKA	577-9439

Appointments

Mem. Sec.:	John Watson	VE3GTX	683-3199
Hi-Q Editor:	Wayne Letang	VA3WRL	344-9759

CLUB REPEATERS

VE3YQT 147.060 -OFFSET
VE3TBR 146.820 -OFFSET

Treasurer's Report: in the absence of VE3GTX, John Watson, the Treasurer's Report was presented by VE3XRC, Norm Bell

Balance as of Aug 3, 1997.....	\$1,069.61
Income Membership dues	2,060.00
Misc.....	44.71
50/50 Draw.....	13.00
Bank Interest.....	0.11
Call Books	<u>12.00</u>
	2,129.82

Expenses:Telephone.....	63.26
Con College.....	50.00
Mail Boxes Etc.....	<u>113.83</u>
	227.09

Balance as of Sept. 30, 1997.....\$ 2,972.34

Motion: moved by VE3XRC Norm Bell and seconded by VE3BHN Bob Gillespie that the Treasurer's Report be accepted. **Carried.**

Old Business:

-Red Rock Repeater: a letter was sent to Thunder Bay Communications requesting permission to install a 2m repeater at their site at Red Rock.

-Insurance: the Club is now insured. VE3SNW Ed Baumann described our insurance policy and what it covers. VE3UA Jim O'Brien suggested that we photograph our equipment so that a pictorial record would be available.

-Museum Display: the equipment has been selected and set up at the Thunder Bay Museum.

-Equipment: VE3TKA Terry Stewardson is arranging a trip up to VE3YQT in the next couple of weeks to check the repeater out for the winter. Terry mentioned that VE3TBR was designated several years ago as an experimental site for club members to try things out such as packet. VE3AJ Bill Klemacki stated that a trip up to VE3TBR was required immediately due to the heavy winds of October 10th which blew over one of our antennas. VE3TKA Terry Stewardson said that he would look after this matter.

-Public Service: VE3ZG Mike Nawrocki announced that

Minutes of a Meeting of the Lakehead Amateur Radio Club held in Room 207B at Confederation College, Thunder Bay, Ontario on October 9, 1997

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm by the President VA3RIM, Ian Mellis with 30 members in attendance.

Minutes of the previous meeting:

The minutes of the previous meeting held September 11, 1997 were published in detail in the October edition of "HI-Q" and distributed to all members.

Motion: moved by VE3BHN Bob Gillespie and seconded by VE3SNW Ed Baumann that the minutes be accepted as distributed. **Carried.**

Correspondence: - none

the O.P.P. Christmas Parade will be held Saturday, November 22, 1997. The club will be entering a float this year as well as providing communications. The John Beargrease Sled Dog Race will take place in January.

-Annual Dinner: VE3RVA Bob Hansen announced that the Landmark Inn is not available this year. He will be looking for a suitable place and is looking for some volunteers to help in the planning of the dinner.

-Memberships: VA3RIM Ian Mellis stated that we are a way ahead of the game compared to this time last year. He will be making some phone calls in the near future to check on the intentions of those who have not renewed their membership in the club.

-RAC: VA3GD Pat Doherty had a couple of items of interest for the Club. RAC has formed a HF committee. He has approached VE3AJ, Bill Klemacki to be part of this committee looking at the Canadian HF bands. Also, a committee is looking at the privileges of the basic plus 5 wpm to maybe include 10m.

-Ladies Issues: the ladies of the Club have once again volunteered to look after the December meeting - guys, be careful what you say on the air in the future.

-JOTA: Claudette Shoupe is looking for members of the club to volunteer the use of their stations for Boy Scouts Jamboree On The Air October 18 and 19/97.

New Business:

-Call Books: a call was received from the Dryden Club asking when we would be putting out a new Northwestern Ontario Call Book. The executive decided to go for it once again. VA3SAM, Sam Shonias will download the Industry Canada data base and

VE3TKA, Terry Stewardson will work on the formatting. We are looking at mid January 1998 for a publication date.

-Safety Vests: VA3JRS, Jan Sokoloski mentioned that at public service events, other groups were identifiable. She has made a prototype safety vest that VE3SNW, Ed Baumann modelled. The cost is approximately \$ 18.00 per vest. The general consensus was that members would like to purchase their own vest.

Motion: moved by VE3SNW, Ed Baumann and seconded by VE3MPT, Manuel Migueis that the Lakehead Amateur Radio Club purchase six vests from VA3JRS for use at public service events.

Carried.

-CW on VE3TBR: VE3AVS, Dave Kimpton announced that CW would be run on VE3TBR Monday, Wednesday and Friday for the month of October.

50/50 Draw: winner of the 50/50 draw was VE3MPT, Manuel Migueis.

Adjournment: moved by VA3MOB, Maureen Bell that the meeting be adjourned.

Following a short break, VE3XT Bill Unger, VE3BCD Laurie Bridgett and VE3AJ Bill Klemacki tested members hand held radios with all kinds of electronic test equipment.

Doorknob Award ?

I think we have an award winner. VA3TBA, Chris admitted to timing out the repeater at the coffee call recently, he said that he was doing test and the repeater timed him out. Did he pass the requirements ? Did anyone witness Chris time out the repeater ? Lindo, VE3NHX at the same coffee fill up said he was the last award winner. Is it time for another award people ? HI-Q Ed.

HAM PUZZLER

By Dave VE3AVS

Unscramble the four jumbled words. Then arrange the shaded letters to form a word or words associated with the call sign shown below. Answers in next month's HI-Q.

V A 3 G O T

EEDKY

RONABC

ESSHAD

PIDEOL

See you all next month....73.

Safety Vests

Jan, VA3JRS is requesting that everyone who is interested a safety vest please call her at 344-3222 to confirm order, size and etc. Tnx Ed.

This space was for some quotable quotes I seen in a Ham magazine, but I couldn't find them when I went to get them. Isn't that the way it is. HI-Q Ed.

911

I recently read the Thunder Bay Post about the use of 911 from your car cellular. The article said to report stranded vehicles instead of stopping and helping out. Weighting the idea around I figured that the best way you could help some out now would be to use 911. This way you don't put yourself in jeopardy or scare the person out who is stranded. Can you imagine stopping and scaring the eebee jeebee's out of some poor lady stuck on the side of highway, or someone could hi-jack your car. I've been told more than once that I'm someone they don't want to meet in an alleyway, I don't know why ? We all have access to autopatch, or I should say most of us do. Lets use it to help others when the opportunity arrives. HI-Q Ed.

Public Service

Little news to report this month, Norm XRC was busy chasing rubber ducks down the Kam River in the annual duck race recently. He reports they kept wanting to go up river instead of down due to the high winds that day. No word on which ducky eventually won the race. Next big event coming up is the annual Xmas Parade, will need about six to eight operators for that, so get your woolen undies out of mothballs for that one. Hope we have better weather than we did last year. Jan is working on the float, and am sure she will need ideas and willing hands to help out. See you all at the next meeting.

Submitted by Mike Nawrocki, VE3ZG

From: Jim Dean, VE3IQ

Date: 1997 10 21

Subject: Operating privileges on 10 meters.

This Bulletin is being sent to you because you subscribed to the RAC email robot. For more information about the robot, please visit

<http://www.rac.ca/~racnews/other/notice/racbullemail.htm>

OPERATING PRIVILEGES ON 10 METERS

RAC increasingly has been receiving questions concerning the operating privileges available to those amateurs having only a Basic certificate. These questions and their answers have been added to the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) on the RAC web site at <http://www.rac.ca>. The answers have been verified with Industry Canada headquarters. Amateurs are again reminded that while RAC endeavours to help with questions, the regulatory authority is Industry Canada, and not RAC.

Radio amateurs should note that:

- a) Amateur radio operators having only the Basic certificate cannot operate on 10 metres on any mode. To transmit on 10 meters, an amateur must have both Basic and 12 wpm certificates. This includes the FM repeaters between 29.5 and 29.7 MHz.;
- b) Amateur radio operators having only the Basic certificate can operate on a voice repeater which inputs on 2 metres and outputs on 10 metres. The 2 metre voice repeater which outputs on 10 metres would be licensed to an amateur who also would have the qualifications necessary to transmit on 10 metres, and who would be in control of the repeater. It should be noted that the installer/operator of the 10 metre repeater plays a key role in this type of operation. In order to install and operate a repeater on 10 metres, the repeater licensee must be the holder of the Basic, 12 wpm and Advanced certificates.

The licensee is permitted to link with a repeater which is operating on other bands, i.e. 2 m or 70 cm. However, the licensee of the 10 metre repeater is forbidden to retransmit radiotelephone signals on the amateur allocations below 29.5 MHz of another station that is not similarly qualified. In other words, if someone wishes to repeat another station's radiotelephone transmissions on a frequency below 29.5 MHz, the person doing the repeating has the responsibility to ensure that the operator of the originating station is similarly qualified to operate on that band. Thus, in a roundabout way, the regulations permit the retransmission of Basic-only signals within the generally accepted amateur 10 metre repeater subband (29.5 to 29.7 MHz); and c) Amateur radio operators having only the Basic certificate can be the licensee for a digital repeater on the VHF and higher bands. The Radio regulations stipulate that only for a radiotelephone (voice) repeater the licensee must be an amateur with an Advanced Certificate. Because of the shortage of repeater frequency pairs in many areas, RAC requests that amateurs wishing to set up a repeater or other fixed-frequency system of any type coordinate their requirements with their local repeater/frequency coordination council.

-30-

Jacques d'Avignon VE3VIA
Editor-Éditeur
Radio Amateurs of/du Canada E-mail Bulletin

E-mail: monitor@rac.ca

(Received from RAC via e-mail)

Sputnik

SB SPACE @ ARL \$ARLS033
ARLS033 Sputnik model launch
update

ZCZC AS33
QST de W1AW
Space Bulletin 033 ARLS033
>From ARRL Headquarters
Newington, CT October 17,
1997
To all radio amateurs

SB SPACE ARL ARLS033
ARLS033 Sputnik model launch
update

New information indicates that the launch of a working model Sputnik 1 from the Russian Mir space station won't take place until early November. According to information received today from Sergei Sambourov, chief of the cosmonaut Amateur Radio department for Russia's Energia space agency, the Sputnik 1 model will be launched November 3 during a spacewalk, although he cautioned that schedule could change. The model Sputnik, assembled by students in Russia and equipped with a 2-meter transmitter by students in France, now is aboard Mir. It was carried to the space station last week by a Progress supply rocket. The program sponsors initially intended to have the working Sputnik model launched from Mir on October 4, the 40th anniversary of the original Sputnik 1 satellite. The Sputnik-40, as it's called, reportedly will be hand-released by the Mir crew during the space walk. Latest information indicates the mini-satellite will transmit a "beep-beep" signal on 145.82 MHz (FM) from its 200-mW onboard transmitter. The batteries are expected to last a month or two. A QSL card will be available for those who

receive the signal.

For additional details and photos see
<http://www.oceanes.fr/~fr5fc/spoutnik.html>.

NNNN
/EX

This message was distributed by the ARRL-SC listserver. A reply to this message will go to ALL MEMBERS OF THE LIST. UNSUBSCRIPTION requests and other list COMMANDS should be addressed to listener@pubaff.clemson.edu and NOT as replies to messages received here! Tnx.

(*ARRL Bulletin to all Amateurs Submitted by Jim Obrien, VE3UA*)

HAMS ON THE MOVE

Al, Peggy and Donald Foley made it to breakfast Saturday October 25, 1997 while en route for Ignace to pack up the last of their belongings. They are moving from Ignace, Ont. To the Great Metro of Timmins, Ontario. Timmins once boasted that they had the greatest land mass for a city. I believe some one beat them for size now. If anyone knows where the biggest City is now please let me know for curiosity sake tnx. Ed.
Al and family can now be found at: 200 Banner St. South Porcupine, Ont.
Mailing address: Box 7184 PMS
South Porcupine, Ont.
P0N 1K0
(705)-235-4756
e-mail: panda@ntl.sympatico.ca

A New Harmonic

VE3GTX, John Watson and spouse Carol are proud parents of a brand spanking new girl harmonic. Erin Allen Watson was born on October 26, 1997 at 1:53 EDT, She weighed in at 7lbs 9oz. Cigars are pending. Hi-Q Ed.

Talk about Dedication

Dave, VE3AVS (always vinting snow) was out on the Strathcona Golf Course skiing at the break of dawn on the first snowfall of the season. How do I know, I heard him come on YQT declaring that he was VE3AVS skinny stick portable. Talk about dedication to the sport or What! (Old one boot)

Where Did They Come From?

The end-of-message signal, AR comes from the American Morse letters FN, meaning 'finish'. VA (or incorrectly SK), from the American Morse 30, meaning half-past the hour the end of an operator's shift. Today it is still used to denote the end of a news article in the publishing industry. ES, for 'and' from the American Morse symbol for '&', used extensively in written English in earlier times.

The symbol was invented by the Romans for a form of shorthand writing. '73' originally meant 'Please accept my compliments' and was one of Morse's original number codes that still survives today, the other being '30'. Alfred Vail, Morse's assistant, was the inventor of telegraph sounder and handkey. He also made the changes where characters were defined by spaces and dashes as well as dits. HO HO or HEE HEE were used for laughter or humor. Incorrectly sent or spoken today as 'HI HI.' The confusion results from the early days of amateur radio between the Continental or International Morse code and Landline/Railway or American Morse code. American Morse code 'O' is sent as two dits spaced slightly farther apart than the dits in the letter 'I'. So, it was picked up by amateurs not familiar with the American Morse as HI HI instead of HEE HEE or HO HO.

Blame the Germans for the Continental or International code. The character and letter occurrences were based on the German language instead of English. Fortunately, English is a cousin to German and rationalizing the code using English would only result in a 5 percent speed increase. The American Morse code is about 25 percent faster but due to the time delays

caused by in the undersea cables, first laid between North America and Europe in the 1850's, it was necessary to get rid of the spacing and long dashes used in some of the American Morse code characters and replace them all with short dashes. Therefore the code had to be redefined. The modern terms 'ham', 'plug' and 'lid' were long in use before amateur radio operators took to the airwaves. A plug was slang for a poor racehorse; a ham or hamfisted operator sent code, well, like a you know what; and a lid was an operator who had to use a tobacco can or lid atop his sounder so his sounder would have a slightly different tonal quality than the dozens of sounders in a busy telegraphy office. (No headphones in those days.) During the 1880's and 90's there was a heavy demand for telegraphers and overnight telegraphy schools or 'plug factories' as they were called churned out thousands of mediocre 'ham-fisted' telegraphers. This flooded the employment market and drove the salaries of the well-paid professional telegrapher down. This didn't sit well with the pros and the upstarts or 'lids' caused a rift that carried over to the amateur radio operator in the early days of wireless. When CW users send a long dash for 'zero', they are actually sending the correct American Morse symbol.

All the above have been documented in telegraphy publications in the latter half of the nineteenth century and therefore already in existence prior to the birth of amateur radio.

(Submitted by VA3ROM, Bob Mazur)

Hamfest Ho!

It usually starts about the end of September, with that whispered question, quietly asked out of earshot of the Significant Others, "You going to the Hamfest?" It's usually answered with a solemn nod, and 'GD adds another call to the reservation list.

The Friday morning arrived and the Intrepid Pilgrims of RF set off for the "Big One" in St. Paul Minnesota. The usual stops in Grand Marais for a good breakfast with bad coffee, Tobies at Hinkley for a good lunch, and finally Radio City to purchase the hamfest admission tickets and ogle the new rigs and hardware. As the store clerk said "they warned me about you guys!"

We settled in at the Day's Inn, conveniently placed across the street from the Civic Centre, this year's hamfest site. We gathered in XT's room to make our plans, where the big question was "so where do you wanna eat?". We had planned to walk down to Mancini's, until a St. Paul police officer asked us "You gotta gun?". Eventually we were hijacked by 'UA and forced to eat at the Red Lobster. We all have sacrifices to make.

Saturday morning came and we headed across the busy intersection to the Civic Centre. The place was full of tables laden with stuff and the usual vendors were there, Radio City, Wireman, Battery Man, and the flea market tables. It was noted that there were some empty tables, and the crowd did not seem quite as big as last year, but organizers said the crowd was bigger. It may be that the civic centre is bigger than the university field house. Of course, like in everything else, computers and computer equipment were everywhere. The radio stuff was there too, but can't compete for

sheer volume with computers. Factory reps from Icom, Yaesu, and Kenwood were there to talk about the new stuff and answer questions. (What happened to Patcomm?) The most remarkable thing was just how tiny the new handheld from Yaesu is. It literally disappears in the palm of your hand, and is smaller than it looks in the ads. The new DSP rigs look very impressive, and the one I got to play with at Radio City sounded very good.

By three o'clock, we had visited every table several times and made the purchases we wanted. Things purchased ranged from a TS-50 mobile HF rig down to coax for a buck a roll. Many members of our group took in the seminars and talks about wire antennas, QRP, old radios and other topics.

Going to a Hamfest is an inspiring thing. Even if you don't plan to buy much, the social aspects of travelling with a group, and affirming that you are part of a much larger amateur radio community are worthwhile reasons for going. As Canadian Amateurs we were well received by our American friends and our hats are off to the Twin City FM Club for organizing an event of this magnitude, their thirteenth so far.

In the immortal words of VA3XRM at his first hamfest "WOW...Look at all that junk!"

Ed VE3SNW

Once again thanks for all the input from club members in putting together this edition of Hi-Q. VA3WRL, Wayne Letang. Hi-Q Editor.